

Message Text

SECRET

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41

ACTION SS-30

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8257

S E C R E T BUCHAREST 1370

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, KN, RO, XF

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN DESIRE TO PASS PROPOSAL FOR PEACE

TREATY TO US CONGRESS VIA ROMANIANS

1. ROMANIAN FOREIGN MIN MACOVESCU CALLED IN AMBASSADOR APRIL 6 TO SAY THAT GOR HAS RECEIVED REQUEST FROM NORTH KOREANS TO PASS A LETTER FROM NORTH KOREAN PARLIAMENT TO US SENATE AND HOUSE. ALTHOUGH ROMANIANS HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED TEXT OF THE LETTER, THEY UNDERSTAND BASIC IDEA IS TO PROPOSE "TREATY OF PEACE" BETWEEN US AND NORTH KOREA. NORTH KOREANS HAVE NOTED SOUTH KOREAN PROPOSAL FOR NON-AGGRESSION TREATY BETWEEN TWO KOREAS BUT NORTH KOREA FINDS THIS IMPRACTICAL IN VIEW OF PRESENCE OF US TROOPS IN SOUTH KOREA. MACOVESCU SAID ROMANIAN HAS NO OFFICIAL OPINION ON SUBSTANCE BUT IN VIEW OF LACK OF REALTIONS BETWEEN US AND NORTH KOREA AND ROMANIA'S GOOD RELATIONS WITH US, IT IS PREPARED TO FORWARD MESSAGE VIA ROMANIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON TO SENATE AND HOUSE BUT ONLY WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH. HE ADDED THAT ROMANIANS HAD ASKED ABOUT PASSAGE OF MESSAGE AT UN BUT KOREANS UNWILLING TO TAKE THIS AVENUE BECAUSE KOREANS THERE HAVE NOT STATUS VIS A VIS US. MACOVESCU ADDED HIS OPINION THAT IT WOULD BE A GOOD THING FOR US GOVERNMENT TO AGREE TO MESSAGE BEING RECEIVED IN MANNER INDICATED WHICH NEED NOT IMPLY LIKELIHOOD OF RESPONSE MUCH LESS OF ANY PARTICULAR VIEW REGARDING CONTENTS, AS IT MIGHT LEAD TO PROGRESS. HE NOTED THAT NORTH KOREAN ATTITUDE HAD BECOME LESS RIGID IN RECENT ITMES.

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REFERRING ONCE AGAIN TO WHAT HE UNDERSTANDS TO BE TEXT OF

LETTER, MACOVESCU SAID HE GATHERED IT PROPOSED SOME SORT OF CONTACTS BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND US.

2. MACOVESCU SAID HE DID NOT EXPECT MESSAGE TO BE READY FOR DELIVERY FOR ANOTHER WEEK OR TWO SINCE (A) KOREANS HAD NOT DELIVERED MESSAGE ITSELF TO GOR AND (B) MESSAGE WOULD NOT BE TRANSMITTED UNTIL AMBASSADOR BOGDAN RETURNED TO US. MACOVESCU SAID A NORTH KOREAN VISIT (UNSPECIFIED LEVEL) TO EASTERN EUROPE WAS PROGRAMMED FOR LATE APRIL (HE MENTIONED APRIL 26) AND SAID NORTH KOREAN VISITOR WAS SCHEDULED TO COME TO BUCHAREST DURING THIS TOUR. MACOVESCU OPINED THAT LETTER WOULD BE GIVEN TO ROMANIANS AT THAT TIME.

3. SHOULD REPLY ON US GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE BE FORTHCOMING WHILE MACOVESCU IS IN THE US, MACOVESCU ASKED THAT MESSAGE BE CONVEYED BY AMBASSADOR TO GLIGA AS ACTING FOREIGN MIN.

4. MACOVESCU SAID HE WOULD HOPE TO HAVE CHANCE TO TALK BRIEFLY WITH THE SECRETARY IN NEW YORK, THOUGH HE WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE PRESSURES ON THE SECRETARY'S TIME. IF HE DID SEE HIM, HE WOULD TOUCH ON THE KOREAN MATTER. IN ADDITION HE WOULD SHARE WITH THE SECRETARY HIS IMPRESSIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION BASED ON HIS HAVING BEEN PRESENT AT ALL OF PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU'S MEETINGS WITH ARAB LEADERS INCLUDING ARAFAT, IF THIS WERE OF INTEREST TO THE SECRETARY.

5. MACOVESCU EXPECTS TO LEAVE SUNDAY NIGHT, APRIL 14, FOR BUCHAREST, HE SAID, AND MAY COME TO WASHINGTON FOR HALF A DAY BUT HAD NO SPECIAL REQUEST AT THIS POINT. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION WHETHER HE WOULD BE ACCOMPANYING CEAUSESCU TO WARSAW (FOR THE POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE SESSION) HE ONLY LAUGHED AND SAID, "YOU'RE WELL INFORMED." HE ALSO NOTED DATE OF HIS RETURN FROM NEW YORK IN THAT CONNECTION.

6. DEPARTMENT PASS AS DESIRED.
BARNES

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